

I am shocked and appalled by Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to require its member stations to air the anti-Kerry production called "Stolen Honor." Their decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. I do not believe for one minute their claim that airing the film is a news production. This film is decidedly an opinionated production aimed only at demeaning Sen. Kerry. It is nowhere close to being balanced.

As you know, Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. By airing a partisan film production, Sinclair is violating the public interest. This is an example of what happens when large companies control the airwaves. We get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. The public would be better served if substantive news programs about issues are aired, AND those programs allow for a balanced reporting of all relevant points of view.

I think it would be appropriate for your agency to take action to prevent or punish actions such as those planned by Sinclair. Their plans regarding "Stolen Honor" are a clear violation of the public trust. Thank you.